THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Thursday, the 3rd April 1958.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at half past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Displaced persons

* 529 *Q.*—SRI P. S. SANTHANAM (on behalf of Sri P. U. Shanmugam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount given by the Government by way of loans and grants to the displaced persons from Pakistan so far; and

(*b*) whether there are any such persons still in this State and, if so, their number?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) A sum of Rs. 7,71,626 was advanced as business, house and educational loans to displaced persons from Pakistan.

A sum of Rs. 46,107 was granted as stipends, cash grant and freeships to displaced students from Pakistan.

(*b*) Yes. Out of 321 displaced families who received loans, only 230 families are still in this State. Twenty-nine displaced students received educational loans but none is in this State at present. Particulars of the number of students who received grants such as stipends, cash grants or freeships and who are still in this State are not available.

MR. SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister may answer the next question also as it relates to a similar subject.

* 530 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state the steps taken for the rehabilitation of refugees from Pakistan?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Recoverable loans were granted to each refugee family for starting business and to some of them for construction of houses also. Facilities for securing bunks and shops to do business and permits for trade in controlled commodities were also given to them.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : May I know whether these grants are given to the Pakistani evacuees as gratis or are they loans recoverable? If they are loans, may I know from the Hon. Minister what is the amount that has so far been recovered from the beginning?